

HIS PURPOSE HIS PLEASURE.

The Perfect Happiness Achieved by a Famous Householder.

"It is only a poor kind of happiness that can come from thinking only about our own pleasure."

It was one of the most thoughtful of the English women of our day who said this, and it is one of her truest utterances, but very few people practically believe the saying. Yet occasionally we read of lives whose whole existence shows that the idea of their own personal happiness entered very little into their thoughts.

In 1808 a young man of seventeen came to New York to make his way in the world. He was honest and industrious, and very soon was able to support himself, and to lay up something from his earnings. He felt the need of a better education, which his poverty had denied him. "If God gives me wealth," he thought, "I will study."

Other young men in future years should not feel the need of the means of education. The thought became his purpose, and his purpose the fulfillment of it was his enjoyment. He became a glue manufacturer, and his glue was the best and the cheapest that could be obtained. Later, he built a large mill, blast furnaces and steel works in various parts of the United States, and in course of time became a millionaire.

The years in which he was accumulating this fortune were years of hard work, with little of what young people would call pleasure in them. But in all that time no business transaction was ever entered into by him which was not thoroughly upright, while his name became known to the people of New York. His own words, plain, direct, honest, and he found the highest pleasure in that. But in these years his purpose strengthened—a plan by which his fortune was to be of use to the people of New York. His own words, plain, direct, honest, and he found the highest pleasure in that.

Probably no private citizen of this century has won the love of so many people as did Peter Cooper. Rich and poor spoke his name with reverence, and whenever his kind face with its fringe of hair was seen, people who would not have moved aside for a Prince made room for him.

Years came and went, and the Cooper Institute, which was the result of his beneficent founder, was constantly extending the sphere of its influence. Not only his own city, which was so dear to him, but the whole country felt the impulse, which Peter Cooper, through the Institute and through his other charities, imparted to it.

At last the busy, kindling life ended, and all New York was in mourning. It was a long life, lasting ninety-two years, none of which were spent in service of self, but all in that of humanity, and thus fragrant with good deeds.

Peter Cooper had placed his own happiness as last to be attained. Yet no man ever experienced such happiness as he to who it came unsought. On that April day in 1883 when his body rested in All Souls Church, three hundred pupils of the Cooper Institute came reverently to lay their roses upon the coffin of their benefactor, and in the heart of each one must have been impressed the belief that the happiness which lasts is not that which aims only at securing one's own pleasure.

His purpose was his life, his enjoyment—*Yonkers Companion*.

KEY WEST.

The Products and Industries of This Beautiful Tropical Island.

At the time of our first visit here the keys were not inhabited, save that on which the town of Key West is situated, and Indian Key, the resort then of wreckers, Indian Key being midway between Key West and Cape Florida, affording the wreckers a convenient rendezvous. The wrecking vessels were much like our Northern pilot-boats and were stationed within signaling distance from each other along the reef. Should a vessel be observed in the toils of the dangerous reef, the fleet would be seen making all speed for the prize. In ante-bellum times the prizes were sufficiently great to excite the most unscrupulous passions. The wrecking business in the commerce have destroyed wrecking as a business of any moment. Another industry has sprung up, which gives occupation to many who have been accustomed to the lonely life along the reef. On the occasion of our traversing Plantation Key in 1874, we encountered on landing a small boy who carried a rusty sabre "at a shoulder." By his permission, our party, consisting of an able-bodied man armed with shot-guns, landed. The guard becoming satisfied that our "intentions were charitable," we were graciously shown a tract of several acres of recently cleared ground on which were growing rows of pineapple tops. Here was the first experiment in the culture of pineapples in Florida. The success of this venture was so decided that since then, we are told, many of the keys are quite devoted to this enterprise. The pine grown here prove to be of superior flavor. The sponge business is yet one of the chief sources of income to the population of Key West. The several forms of commercial sponges grow in the shallow lagoons and creeks along the inner waters of the reef. In most instances the sponge is secured by hooks, appearing, when taken, as the most repulsive of black masses, heavy with water and the jelly-like flesh which constitutes its living organism. These are thrown ashore and left to be washed by the waves, or are frequently rinsed by dashing water over them. In a few days, during the warm weather of the latitude, the soft parts become dried and the lighter, more attractive skeletons remain, which constitute the sponges of commerce.

What a delight is the first visit to a tropical town—the first sensations of a balmy atmosphere, the first of a continued trade-wind, the characteristic "trade" that moves so quietly during the winter season in this semi-tropical region, and is so tempered as nimbly and sweetly to recommend itself into our gentle senses. We vividly remember the delights and indescribable sensations of our first visit with the rigors of a New England winter air but just shaken off. A full moon was just visible over the feathery tops of innumerable coco-palms as we landed, and the mellow

HARES AND RABBITS.

Description of a Rodent That May Be Designated an Agricultural Pest.

The family Leporidae, which includes the rabbits and hares, is an exceedingly well marked one. There are four incisor teeth in the upper jaw, the second pair being quite small, and placed directly behind the principal pair, which are deeply grooved in front. There are six molar teeth in each upper jaw, and five in each lower jaw; they are not provided with roots. The much lengthened hind limbs, the long ears, and the short, erect tail are all characteristics of this family.

The common burrowing rabbit of Europe (*Lepus cuniculus*), from which our tame species is descended, is now found in several places in North America. On Sable Island it is very common, and on Key West, near Key West, is completely overrun with these animals. The color in the wild state is brownish-gray above, white beneath. It is a very destructive animal, and makes sad havoc in the vegetable garden. Fortunately, its flesh is excellent eating, and it is so apt to be killed by the damage done in the fields. The rabbit digs burrows in the earth, generally large numbers of them being found together, riddling the ground, and forming what is known as *warrens*. This is a very prolific species, and multiplies rapidly when not much molested. The female produces as many as five or six litters of young in a single year.

The rabbit is hunted, when found in coverts, by spaniels or terriers, and shot as it bounds away, or by driving them from their burrows with a ferret when they are found in warrens. Very quick and sharp shooting is needed to kill the rabbits, as they are so quick and nimble. They are the enemy with precipitate haste. They are very tenacious of life, and stand a great deal of killing, often managing to tumble into a burrow even when very hard hit. A small and active ferret should be used, as a large one will kill the rabbit, and remain in the burrow to devour it, and can with difficulty be recovered, while a small animal is too light to hold a "coney," but is quite effectual in driving them from their burrows. The short ears and burrowing habits of the rabbit at once distinguish it from the true hare. The latter are, however, commonly called rabbits in this country.

The common species of hare in the Eastern United States is the wood hare or grey rabbit (*Lepus sylvaticus*). This familiar rodent is readily distinguished from the other American hares by the following characteristics: Ears shorter than the head, and not tipped with black; hind feet not longer than head; color above greyish fawn, varied with brown; beneath, whitish; length of head and body fifteen inches; weight, from two to two and a half pounds.

The grey rabbit is most active during the night, usually spending the day, except in the breeding season, crouched in its "form" in a hollow in the ground, or in some brush heap, or thick clump of bushes. When frightened, it will run with great speed for a hundred yards or so, and then stops to listen before running on. When chased by dogs, if the underwood be thick, it winds and doubles through the brush, and not infrequently throws off its pursuers. When hard pressed, it takes refuge in some hollow tree, or in a burrow made by the woodchuck or skunk. This species does not itself dig any burrow, the young being brought up in a tree hollow at its base, or in some similar hiding place. The female produces three litters in a season, and the young number from five to seven at a birth. When angry or alarmed, this hare has the habit, common to the genus, of stamping on the ground with its hind feet, making a great deal of noise for so small an animal. The only cry of this animal is a plaintive squeal when captured or hurt, the cries having no note or call of attention to its food. Very various, and few gardeners will need to be told that the "cotton tail" is often very destructive. The kitchen, garden and the orchard suffer alike, like trees being sometimes destroyed during the winter by being gnawed by the sharp teeth of the rodent. When rabbits have once effected an entrance into a vegetable garden, they usually return every night, and are very difficult to shoot. The grey rabbit is not easily tamed, and does not appear to thrive in captivity, although they breed readily in enclosed warrens. This species has many enemies, being preyed upon by foxes, cats, and dogs, for although swift of foot, it possesses but little endurance, and is soon overtaken by dogs, foxes, wild cats, or its implacable enemy, the ermine. Eagles, hawks, owls and snakes prey upon them, but the most dangerous enemy is the unfortunate "cotton tail," especially the young animals.

West of the Mississippi River are found three varieties of the *Sylvaticus*, which differ very little from the Eastern variety, either in form or habits; they are merely local races.

The northern hare, or white rabbit (*Lepus americanus*), is easily known from the common grey species. It is much larger than the latter, measuring from the tip of the ear to the tip of the tail, and attaining a weight of five and one-half to six pounds. The hind feet are longer than the head, and the ears are of equal length to the head. The color is much more uniform than in the wood hare; in winter, in northern latitudes, almost pure white; in New York and Pennsylvania, clouded with brown; tips of the ears black. The hind limbs are nearly as long as the fore legs, and the soles of all the feet are closely covered with hair.

The home of this hare is always in deep forests, it being very rarely seen in the open country. It pursues its life in the neighborhood of vegetable gardens or orchards. This is a nocturnal animal, and remains in its form throughout the middle of the day, in the manner of the grey rabbit. Its peculiarity of following the same paths month after month, and this habit is often taken advantage of by the gunners.

The northern hare has from four to six litters of young in a year, and is called at a birth a *leveret*, but once a year. The young arrive at maturity at a very early age. When pursued, the white rabbit runs with great swiftness and endurance; windings and doubling through the woods, selecting the roughest paths, and leaping through the most briary thickets, it not infrequently makes good its escape, even from the fast and staunch hounds. Over the snowy fields, or the greatest ease, its broad, furry feet hardly sinking beneath the surface,

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MOTHS.

The Different Varieties of the Housekeeper's Foes.

For the benefit of young housekeepers I would say that from the egg which the wee white miller lays is hatched a tiny white worm (*larva sarcitella*), one-fourth to one-half an inch long, sometimes longer. This little worm is no discriminator of materials, but as soon as it is hatched begins to clothe itself in anything woolen in which it may chance to find itself from your pretty blind camel's hair matinee on which a miller found a comfortable resting place, as it hung a little late in your closet, to an old woolen cleaning rag, which some other miller chanced to find forgotten in some out-of-the-way place. As it also feeds off the wool, its worm is of the color of the bit of wool on which it has lived; and an inside-out little cocoon it may be, too. Perhaps in July you take down a dress to put on which has hung three or four weeks in the closet. In brushing it you find on the sleeve, say, a bit of roughness; rub it with your fingers, and it comes off leaving a hole. Pull it apart and you find a horrible little fat caterpillar. This may be better than a little later, to find only the remains of a wee cocoon, suggesting millers which have hatched, only to lay the foundation of future destruction. A hard hit on the caterpillar with a pin, or a long blackish worm, like the little white one, only larger, and with a fuzzy back, but it may be successful, if treated in the same way. If one chances to find in a trunk, or a roll of cloth, a tiny, fuzzy little worm, or a brownish worm shell, it behooves one to search very carefully for black moths.

Corrosive sublimate is the only thing known which has any effect on that mysterious little round black buffalo, the carpet beetle. If you wash your lines, not only across carpets, but dresses, silks, velvets, etc. When they are suspected of fleas and cracks should be thoroughly saturated with sublimate of double strength, one tablespoonful in a quart of water. If you wash your carpets should be brushed with the weaker solution. This, with great vigilance in watching for and destroying them, will finally exterminate them. Buffalo moths do not creep on the little white millers as many erroneously suppose, but from a curious little beetle, which, in shape and habits, is a lady-bug. The lady-bug, we all know, is red, with black spots; but the little bug which is the cause of the damage is black, with red and white spots, or red spots, and a whitish line down the middle of its back, and is rather smaller than a lady-bug. Early in the spring they begin to creep out on the sunny days, and if you are not very careful to destroy them you will be saved much after trouble, as the little round black furry creatures are far more destructive than the common moths. A hat worn one day, for instance, and then laid on its side in the closet, may be taken out the next to find a large round hole in the black silk lining, and a comfortable tiny furry black ball nestled in it. When discovered he makes off very rapidly. If he is not caught, he will have left two or three days the whole lining would have been riddled. If these little creatures are known to be in the house, one must keep constantly on the lookout, as they appear in unexpected places, possibly in the center of a package of envelopes, or in a box of lace, unopened for a few days. Dresses or clothes in closets must be taken down and brushed thoroughly every week, or better yet, once a week, to hunt particular spots in a way very suggestive of tramps, perhaps under the northwest corner of a particular bureau, though one can find no reason for that particular spot being chosen. Purge out or burn up the contents, but a strong solution of corrosive sublimate destroys them.—*Philadelphia Press*.

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MOTHS.

The Different Varieties of the Housekeeper's Foes.

For the benefit of young housekeepers I would say that from the egg which the wee white miller lays is hatched a tiny white worm (*larva sarcitella*), one-fourth to one-half an inch long, sometimes longer. This little worm is no discriminator of materials, but as soon as it is hatched begins to clothe itself in anything woolen in which it may chance to find itself from your pretty blind camel's hair matinee on which a miller found a comfortable resting place, as it hung a little late in your closet, to an old woolen cleaning rag, which some other miller chanced to find forgotten in some out-of-the-way place. As it also feeds off the wool, its worm is of the color of the bit of wool on which it has lived; and an inside-out little cocoon it may be, too. Perhaps in July you take down a dress to put on which has hung three or four weeks in the closet. In brushing it you find on the sleeve, say, a bit of roughness; rub it with your fingers, and it comes off leaving a hole. Pull it apart and you find a horrible little fat caterpillar. This may be better than a little later, to find only the remains of a wee cocoon, suggesting millers which have hatched, only to lay the foundation of future destruction. A hard hit on the caterpillar with a pin, or a long blackish worm, like the little white one, only larger, and with a fuzzy back, but it may be successful, if treated in the same way. If one chances to find in a trunk, or a roll of cloth, a tiny, fuzzy little worm, or a brownish worm shell, it behooves one to search very carefully for black moths.

Corrosive sublimate is the only thing known which has any effect on that mysterious little round black buffalo, the carpet beetle. If you wash your lines, not only across carpets, but dresses, silks, velvets, etc. When they are suspected of fleas and cracks should be thoroughly saturated with sublimate of double strength, one tablespoonful in a quart of water. If you wash your carpets should be brushed with the weaker solution. This, with great vigilance in watching for and destroying them, will finally exterminate them. Buffalo moths do not creep on the little white millers as many erroneously suppose, but from a curious little beetle, which, in shape and habits, is a lady-bug. The lady-bug, we all know, is red, with black spots; but the little bug which is the cause of the damage is black, with red and white spots, or red spots, and a whitish line down the middle of its back, and is rather smaller than a lady-bug. Early in the spring they begin to creep out on the sunny days, and if you are not very careful to destroy them you will be saved much after trouble, as the little round black furry creatures are far more destructive than the common moths. A hat worn one day, for instance, and then laid on its side in the closet, may be taken out the next to find a large round hole in the black silk lining, and a comfortable tiny furry black ball nestled in it. When discovered he makes off very rapidly. If he is not caught, he will have left two or three days the whole lining would have been riddled. If these little creatures are known to be in the house, one must keep constantly on the lookout, as they appear in unexpected places, possibly in the center of a package of envelopes, or in a box of lace, unopened for a few days. Dresses or clothes in closets must be taken down and brushed thoroughly every week, or better yet, once a week, to hunt particular spots in a way very suggestive of tramps, perhaps under the northwest corner of a particular bureau, though one can find no reason for that particular spot being chosen. Purge out or burn up the contents, but a strong solution of corrosive sublimate destroys them.—*Philadelphia Press*.

HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND.

The Official Who Was Unfamiliar With the Vernacular.

"Soy, podner, I want ter get a mug pinched," said a man with a black eye this morning, as he expostulated a gill of tobacco spit on the floor of a police court clerk's office.